

II.—WORKING OF THE YEAR.

(a).—COMMUNICATIONS AND BUILDINGS.

39. The amount departmentally spent on works under this head was Rs. 7,327-8-0.

The details of this expenditure are shown below :—

Description of Work.	EAST THANA.			WEST THANA.			SURAT.			PANCH MAHA'LS.			Total.
	No.	Cost.		No.	Cost.		No.	Cost.		No.	Cost.		
		Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.		Rs.	a. p.	
1. Bungalows—													
New work	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1,694	0 0	1	367	10 1	2,061 10 1
Repairs...	1	301	10 0	1	31	14 0	3	250	0 0	2	462	5 0	1,045 13 0
2. Roads—							Miles.						
New work	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	822	5 6	...	...	...	822 5 6
Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	865	12 8	...	...	...	865 12 8
3. Rest-houses—													
New work	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	430	0 0	...	...	...	430 0 0
Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Guards' huts—													
Forest posts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New work	1	7	0 0	...	...	...	5	77	0 0	...	...	...	84 0 0
Repairs	144	570	15 0	167	412	8 0	3	5	1 11	1	22	0 0	1,020 8 11
5. Cattle-pounds—													
New work	8	118	9 6	12	225	4 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	343 14 3
Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Other works—													
New work	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	37	14 4	1	620	9 3	659 7 7
Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	0 0	...	...	...	5 0 0
Total	...	998	2 6	...	669	10 9	...	4,187	2 5	...	1,472	8 4	7,327 8 0

40. The following is a list of works carried out during the year through the agency of the Public Works Department :—

No.	Name of Work.	Amount of Expenditure.
	ORIGINALS.	Rs. a. p.
	<i>East Thána.</i>	
1	Additions and alterations to the Forest Dépôt house at Vásind ...	190 14 9
2	Do. do. do. at A'tgaon...	190 15 8
3	Do. do. to the Forest Ranger's office and residence at Khardi.	1,314 15 5
	<i>West Thána.</i>	
1	Additions and alterations to the Range Forest Office at Kelve Máhim. ...	18 7 7
2	Repairing the ground floor of the Range Forest Office at Dáhánu.	20 0 0
3	Constructing a Forest Dépôt house at Vangaon ...	1,228 7 10
4	Additions and alterations to the Range Forest Office at Bassein.	101 8 0
	Total ...	3,065 5 3
	REPAIRS.	
	<i>East Thána.</i>	
1	Repairs to the Range Forest Office at Murbád ...	24 14 9
2	Do. do. at Khardi ...	45 0 0
3	Do. do. at Wáda ...	19 15 10
4	Do. do. at Bhiwndi ...	25 0 0
5	Do. Forest Dépôt house at A'tgaon ...	14 15 9
6	Do. do. at Kássára ...	14 15 0
7	Do. do. at Vásind ...	14 15 3
8	Do. do. at Vángni ...	14 14 7

No.	Name of Work.	Amount of Expenditure.
REPAIRS—continued.		
<i>West Thána.</i>		Rs. a. p.
1	Repairs to the Range Forest Office at Bassein ...	24 6 0
2	Do. do. at Thána ...	19 5 2
3	Do. do. at Kelve Máhim ...	24 14 7
4	Do. Forest Dépôt house at Manor ...	14 14 8
5	Do. do. at Sawta ...	14 15 6
6	Do. do. at Pálghar ...	13 14 6
7	Do. do. at Sanján ...	14 15 9
		302 1 4
Total ...		3,367 6 7

(b).—PROTECTION OF FORESTS FROM INJURY.

(1)—General Protection and Breaches of Forest Law.

(a).—General Protection.

41. The protective establishment has remained unchanged during the year.

42. Reference was made last year (paragraph 62) to the weakness of the establishment for the work required of it. Nearly all the Divisional Forest Officers record a similar complaint this year and for the most part are supported by the Collectors as may be seen from the remarks recorded by the latter, in forwarding the divisional reports, which are given at length in the concluding chapter of this report (para. 121)

43. In the Dángs especially it is found most difficult to obtain recruits to fill vacancies as the pay is not considered sufficient to out-balance the deadly climate and the isolation from families and caste.

44. The other remarks recorded under this head last year hold good.

(b).—Breaches of Forest Law.

45. The following is a comparative statement of the cases tried before Magistrates for breaches of the Forest law during the year under report and the preceding year :—

No.	Division.	1892-93.		1893-94.		Percentage of failures.	
		Prosecutions.	Acquittals.	Prosecutions.	Acquittals.	1892-93.	1893-94.
1	East Thána ...	110	43	152	55	39	36.1
2	West Thána ...	108	17	62	31	15.7	50
3	Surat ...	3	...	2	...	...	...
4	Panch Maháls ...	13	2	14	3	15.4	21.4
Total ...		234	62	230	89	26.5	38.7

46. The number of cases, it will be seen, is almost the same as last year (though last year's figures were for 15 months), but the increased proportion of acquittals is to be regretted. The Divisional Forest Officer, West Thána, attempts an explanation which, however, is not accepted by the Collector. It must be remembered that the total number of cases is very small to give a